

The American Observer

A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends.—James Monroe

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Two Choices

By Walter E. Myer

GROUCHO Marx presents a variety of people on his radio-television show, "You Bet Your Life." On one of his programs was a man who had reached the ripe old age of 101. As he stood before the studio audience, he drew as much admiration from Groucho as from listeners and watchers across the land. The same question must have been in all minds: How did this alert, active gentleman succeed in passing the century mark in age, and stay so spry?

To satisfy everyone's curiosity, Groucho asked the question, and the man gave his reply. "I've always looked at life in this way," he said. "Each individual has two choices open to him every time he gets up in the morning. He can be either happy or unhappy. I've always taken the first choice, and perhaps that is why I am still around."

Now there must have been many other reasons for this man's long life. He must have been blessed with a fine constitution, and he probably followed sensible rules of health care.

Unfortunately, a happy attitude by itself will not produce a ripe, old age for everyone who employs it. All of us know people who, though cheerful and happy in their attitude toward life, are cut down by illness or accident in their youth or middle age. Despite their refusal to be gloomy or grumpy, they are prevented from enjoying a long life.

After observing all this, though, it remains true that there is no substitute for cheerfulness. No matter how long one may live, it is an ingredient which is essential to a happy, useful life.

For some, cheerfulness may indeed add years by warding off the tensions and strains which can so easily lead to physical suffering and to ailments requiring a doctor's care. Medical authorities agree that gloom, discouragement, and pessimism cause wear and tear on the body, making it have a harder time to function normally.

Besides the physical dividends which it may pay, cheerfulness also is rewarding simply in helping us to make the most of every day that we do live. It gives us more enthusiasm with which to approach our tasks and responsibilities. It is more likely to put us on the road to successful accomplishment than on the path which leads to dejection and defeat. Small irritations will not annoy us so much when we are cheerful, and larger difficulties are less inclined to weigh us down.

The cheerful person adds not only to his own reservoir of strength, but he also gives a lift to those around him. Some of his good feeling rubs off on others, and their day is better for having been with him.

Yes, cheerfulness is capable of working many wonders. The strange thing is that more people do not discover this simple secret.

So remember the two choices that are open to you every day of the year—to be happy, or not to be. The decision, to a very large extent, is yours to make.



Walter E. Myer



HOPING IT WILL HATCH THIS TIME

FRED O. CHISOLM
RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH

The Berlin Meetings

Can the Allied and Russian Foreign Ministers Reach Agreement on What to Do About Germany and Austria?

THE foreign chiefs of the United States, Britain, Russia, and France are scheduled to meet in Berlin today to discuss the future of Germany and Austria—and to take up other issues that trouble the free world.

The meeting, if held as agreed upon, will be the first official get-together in 4½ years of the Russian and western foreign ministers. It was in 1949 that they last conferred—without success—in Paris.

Russia and the western nations settled on Berlin and January 25 as the place and date for a conference with difficulty—only after an argumentative exchange of notes over a six-month period. There was even a heated last-minute dispute over which buildings should be used for the Big Four meetings.

In view of difficulties that arose before talks began, British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden told his nation not to expect "too much" in the form of agreements at Berlin.

Nevertheless, the western nations look upon the Berlin conference as an important one. The mere fact that Russia agreed to the meeting may be a sign that she is now ready to make agreements, after a long period of coldness toward western proposals.

Russia's attitude in Berlin may show whether there is or is not a chance of easing world tension by diplomatic negotiation. (If the conference is canceled, the following discussion will serve as an outline of differences between Russia and the western world that need to be settled.)

GERMANY. The U. S. government holds that the question of Germany's future needs to be decided quickly. Germany was divided in 1945 after her Nazi armies lost World War II. Russia took over an eastern area and made it into a communist state. We, France, and Britain helped the western area establish a democratic government.

Both Russia and the western allies have said repeatedly that they want to unite communist East Germany and democratic West Germany under one government. Despite all the talk for nearly nine years, no agreement has been made on how unity should be brought about.

Russia's plan. Russia doesn't want to let the German people hold elections to choose a new government. The Soviet Union points out that there already is an East German government and one for West Germany. The

(Concluded on page 2)

Are We Heading For Depression?

Most Economists Say We Are in a Slump, but They Foresee No Serious Collapse

NONE of the high school students who read this paper can remember the great depression that began in 1929 and lasted well into the 1930's. Their parents, however, remember it as a time of anxiety and hardship.

Prices of farm products fell to pitifully low levels. Numerous farmers, unable to repay loans and meet various other expenses, lost their land.

Most people had little money to spend on automobiles, clothing, or anything else. As a result, manufacturers were forced to shut down many of their factories. Large numbers of businesses "went broke" and were unable to repay the loans they had obtained from banks. Thousands of banks failed, and depositors saw their savings destroyed.

In 1932 and 1933, some 13 million workers, or about 1 out of every 4 in the nation, were unable to find jobs.

People, in those days, were desperate for money. In the spring of 1932, about 15,000 unemployed war veterans from various parts of the country gathered together in the nation's capital, camped there, and pleaded for economic help from Congress. They were unsuccessful in their demands, and were eventually driven from their camps by U. S. troops.

Conditions began to improve after 1933. Even so, the unemployment problem remained serious until we launched the big defense production effort, about 1940, which accompanied World War II.

Since the end of that conflict there hasn't been much worry about an immediate depression of the type that occurred 25 years ago. During the post-war period, the average American has been more prosperous than ever before.

Just recently, though, a change has taken place. The amount of unemployment in some areas has risen considerably, and there are various other signs of an economic slump. This slump was widely publicized in the business forecasts which newspapers and magazines published at the beginning of 1954.

Naturally, there is considerable concern over it. People who remember the great depression of the 1930's are disturbed by even the remotest prospect of another. So the nation awaits with much interest the Economic Report which President Eisenhower and his advisers are to make public on Thursday, January 28.

This report is expected to give the administration's opinion on our country's economic prospects for the next year or so. Also, it will undoubtedly

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Berlin Meetings

(Concluded from page 1)

thing to do, Russia says, is to join the two together. East German communists and West German democratic leaders would share power. We, our allies, and the Soviet Union would choose from among the Germans *now in office* to make up the single government. That preliminary government would decide when the German people should be allowed to vote in elections.

The U. S. plan. The U. S. and allied governments want free elections to be the *first step* toward German unity. We have refused to accept the idea of choosing a government for all Germany *without elections*. Only a government based on "the will of the people as expressed in free elections" can deal with the problems of a united Germany, the western allies told Russia in a recent diplomatic note.

Comment. Recent history shows that setting up a government that includes "hand-picked" communists could be risky for democracy. Czechoslovakia, for example, had such a government just after World War II. By 1948, communists were able to take complete control in Czechoslovakia, get rid of democratic leaders, and join hands with Russia.

The Reds similarly took over in Poland after a short period of working with Polish democratic leaders. There is danger that Germany also would become entirely communist if the Russian plan for unification is followed.

Our government believes that the holding of free elections from the very outset is the only just, democratic plan. Also, our leaders are confident that a strong democratic victory would be the result of free elections. Two reasons are given for this belief:

(1) The people of West Germany have already shown that they are strongly anti-communist by their votes for democratic leadership in the government they have now.

(2) East Germans showed their dislike of communism and the Russians by staging riots and strikes last summer. If given a chance, a large majority of the East Germans probably would vote against communism and for democratic leadership in a united German government.

Compromise? The western powers appear unwilling to give up their plan for free elections in Germany as a starting point for a united government. Thus, the big question is: Will Russia permit such elections, or will she insist upon having a *preliminary government with members selected by her and the western allies*?

The Soviet leaders might yield on

this point if the allies are willing to make concessions on certain military issues involving West Germany and Europe.

MILITARY ISSUES. The Russian government and press make clear that the communists are trying hard (1) to prevent the use of German troops in any western defense force, and (2) to weaken NATO, the organization through which we and our allies are seeking to defend free Europe.

The Soviet government charges that NATO is intended for aggression, not for defense. Russia also charges that the western powers want to use German soldiers for aggressive purposes—against Russia.

Soviet proposals. Russia wants present NATO bases in West Germany to be abandoned. She also wants the NATO allies to do away with plans for putting Germans into an army with other western Europeans. (Such an army would be known as the European Defense Community—EDC.) Russia would allow a united Germany to have forces for her own defense, but would bar her from any alliance with western nations.

If the western allies accepted such a settlement, Soviet forces now in East Germany would withdraw into Polish territory. American and other western forces now in West Germany would withdraw to France or elsewhere.

Comment. We and our allies want Russian troops to get out of Germany. The Soviet plan, though, would take the Red forces only about 100 miles from Berlin, which probably would be the capital of a united Germany. The Russian troops could move back to Berlin easily. American and allied forces, on the other hand, would be 300 miles or more from Berlin. If Russia compromises on other important points, however, the western allies may yield on this one.

Propaganda. In an effort to win support for the Russian proposals, the communist press and radio have been carrying on a big propaganda campaign. Much of it is aimed at the United States. Germans are told that the U. S. wants to use German soldiers because they "are cheaper than American boys." The British and French are told that they are suffering loss of trade with Red China and Russia because of U. S. policy.

U. S. views. Secretary of State Dulles says that NATO and plans for using German troops in a western army (EDC) came about for purely *defensive* reasons. Dulles seems determined that NATO will remain as it is, and that plans for EDC shall be carried out.

At the same time, it is known that our government is willing to consider



CAN EAST AND WEST Germans be united under a democratic government?

entering into a pact with Russia for the purpose of insuring her against attack by German or allied military forces. She claims to be afraid of the possibility of such an attack.

Britain. The British view is similar to ours. Foreign Secretary Eden has stated that NATO and the proposed EDC are vital to western Europe's defense, and cannot be given up. Eden has likewise said that the British are willing to consider some sort of non-aggression pledge to Russia.

France. A number of French leaders support the plan for using German troops in a defensive army, but many Frenchmen are against the idea. They worry that German forces will become a danger to them. As a result, the French parliament has delayed action on EDC.

Foreign Minister Georges Bidault has been instructed to follow an "independent" policy at Berlin. American newsmen in Paris interpret this to mean that France is eager to listen to Russian proposals, in the hope that some compromise agreements can be reached. In a showdown, though, it is generally felt that the French government will stand with its western allies.

Agreement? With the western nations determined to keep their defensive forces in Europe, an agreement on the military issues probably will be most difficult. Much depends on whether or not Russia will accept

promises of non-aggression as sufficient guarantees that the West will not attack her.

Some observers think that Russia has no intention of making any agreements in Berlin. It is suggested that Russia wants only to use the conference as a sounding board for new propaganda attacks against the western allies, especially the United States.

AUSTRIA. Although Russian and western troops are stationed in Austria, that country is better off than divided Germany. Austria has a single, democratic government, which was formed at the end of World War II. Austrians may travel freely in all parts of their country, whereas Germans can go between East and West Germany only with difficulty.

Western diplomats say that it should be easy to decide upon withdrawing all military forces from Austria and to leave the country completely independent—if Russia is ready to make an agreement.

OTHER ISSUES. In addition to the questions of Austria and uniting East and West Germany, there is also the issue of what to do about other German territory. There is the city of Königsberg (now called Kaliningrad), held by Russia; rich agricultural lands, held by Poland; and the tiny but industrially valuable Saar region, which is linked with France.

Most Germans want to get back the lost territories, especially the area held by Poland. This matter may be left for future discussion, though, if Russia and the western nations can agree on uniting East and West Germany.

Russia, in notes to our government, has said she wants to take up world problems in general. We want most to discuss Austria and Germany, but appear ready to consider other questions—if it appears that agreements can be reached in Berlin.

Pronunciations

Celal Bayar—jā-lāl' bi-ār'
Eniwetok—ēn-i-wē'tōk
Georges Bidault—zhawrzsh bē-dō'
Kaliningrad—kā-lē'nin-grāt
Königsberg—kuh'niks-bērk



FOREIGN AFFAIRS CHIEFS (left to right): U. S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, Foreign Minister Georges Bidault of France, and Foreign Minister Vyacheslav Molotov of the Soviet Union

Science News

THE electronic brain, which is already famous for speedy mathematical calculations and weather forecasting, has now turned to languages.

The International Business Machines Corporation has developed a machine which for the first time has mechanically translated Russian into English. The machine, in a recent demonstration, translated a message at the rate of 2½ lines per second.

Before the brain can go to work, the Russian message must be put into a special code on punched cards. These cards are then fed into the machine, and they come out seconds later on an automatic printer in English.

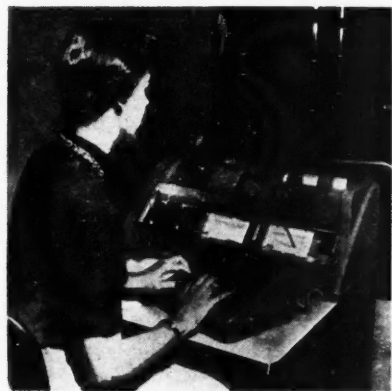
Dr. Leon Dostert of Georgetown University, who originated the idea of the language brain, says that while the machine can translate fairly complex sentences, it is limited by its vocabulary and by its knowledge of grammar. The machine now has a vocabulary of only 250 words, and in a not too complex sentence it must go through some 60,000 operations.

Another drawback to the machine in its present stage of development is that the message has to be coded on punched cards for translation before it is put into the machine. However, Dr. Dostert says it will not be long, possibly three to five years, until automatic text-reading machines can translate Russian and other foreign languages without the use of cards.

★

The world's most powerful atom smasher will be built at the Brookhaven National Laboratory in Long Island, New York. With the new machine scientists hope to learn more about the structure of the atom and the particles that make up an atom.

The atom smasher, called a synch-



IT TRANSLATES RUSSIAN into English and can be adapted for other languages

rotron, will cover an area twice the size of a football field. Construction of the machine will cost close to 20 million dollars and probably won't be completed for five or six years.

The synchrotron will look like a big doughnut-shaped tunnel. Inside the tunnel, electrically charged particles will shoot along like bullets, smashing into target atoms and breaking them up. When these speeding particles smash into a material being studied, they are expected to uncover parts of the atom that scientists never before have been able to study.

Already Brookhaven has an atom smasher called the cosmotron which at present is the world's largest. The new machine will have six times as much energy as the older cosmotron.



A GERMAN GIRL speaks at a youth meeting in the West German republic



AUSTRIAN BOY in Vienna, one of the most famous European cities

GERMANS AND AUSTRIANS

Two Peoples Closely Related

FEW people have caused more trouble in this century than have the Germans. Twice they have started world wars. Twice they have been defeated—but only at great cost in lives and money.

Why have the Germans caused so much bloodshed? Is there something peculiar to their nature that makes them wage war? What are these people like?

The Germans' actions can hardly be explained as "something in their blood." They are closely connected by blood ties to their more peaceful neighbors. For example, many people in northern Germany are tall, blue-eyed and blond like the people of lands farther north. In southern Germany, one finds many short and plump people with dark hair and eyes. The latter are closely related to the Swiss and to the people of central Europe.

More than anything else, history helps to explain the German nature. For hundreds of years this area was broken up into many small states. In these states, the people seldom questioned the authority of their leaders. Democratic traditions did not take root. Thus, even after the German states were joined in a single nation, it was easy for ambitious and aggressive rulers, such as Kaiser Wilhelm and Adolf Hitler, to lead the people into war.

Hard Working

The Germans are orderly and hard working. They are painstaking and thorough in what they do. These traits helped them build powerful, efficient armies. When directed into peaceful channels, though, the same traits can help build a strong nation.

Today the Iron Curtain divides Germany into two parts. Refugees from communist-dominated East Germany report that life is hard there, and that it has become a typical "police state." East Germany is about the size of Kentucky with a population of about 19 million people.

In contrast, the 50 million people of West Germany are making good progress. The ports along the North Sea and on the Rhine River are busy again. Farmers are raising increasingly large crops. Factories in the Ruhr and other areas are going full blast.

A visitor to West Germany—about

the size of Oregon—is impressed by the comeback these people have made. War-devastated areas are mostly cleaned up. New buildings are going up everywhere. Families are still crowded for space, but the construction of over a million apartments in the last four years has eased the housing shortage.

Food is plentiful today. In meat shops, one may see long strings of sausages of all shapes and sizes. Bacon and tasty hams from the state of Westphalia are again in supply.

Several U. S. meat products originated in Germany and nearby regions. The hamburger derives its name from the North Sea city of Hamburg. The city of Frankfurt has given its name to the popular frankfurter. In German language, the Austrian city of Vienna is called Viena (pronounced veen). From it comes the word "weenie."

Holiday Costumes

At work, Germans dress much as Americans do. For holidays and festivals, though, they often put on colorful, old-fashioned costumes. In the province of Bavaria in southern Germany, the men and boys may wear short leather pants held up by ornate suspenders. The women and girls may, on such occasions, dress in long, full-gathered skirts and blouses.

The German language is spoken quite widely. Many Swiss speak it, and it is the official language of Austria. The Austrians are closely related to the people of southern Germany.

Vienna, capital city of Austria, has long been known for its gaiety and charm. It was at one time the capital of the Austrian Empire which took in much of central Europe. At that time the city became a world center for literature, music, science, and learning.

Vienna is famous for its coffeehouses. The people of that city like to gather in cafes to talk over happenings of the day, to read newspapers which the coffeehouses make available, and to drink coffee. The latter beverage is served in a wide variety of ways, ranging from a thick, black syrup to a liquid topped with rich whipped cream.

The Viennese are music lovers, and the opera season is one of the great events each year. Prices for opera seats run as low as 40 cents.

Your Vocabulary

In each sentence below, match the italicized word with the following word or phrase whose meaning is most nearly the same. Correct answers are given on page 8, column 4.

1. He was accused of planning *seditions* (sē-dish'ūz) activities. (a) illegal (b) treasonable (c) outside (d) wicked.

2. As he saw it, these rules were *inviolable* (in-vi'ō-lā-bl). (a) incapable of being violated (b) old-fashioned (c) violated (d) easily overlooked.

3. The document was prepared under the State Department's *auspices* (aws'pī-sēz). (a) new rules (b) orders (c) treaty making powers (d) care.

4. After hours of discussion, they reached an *impasse* (im-pass'). (a) way out (b) agreement (c) deadlock (d) important point.

5. He was *adamant* (ād'ā-mānt) in defense of his proposals. (a) rude (b) well prepared (c) weak (d) unyielding.

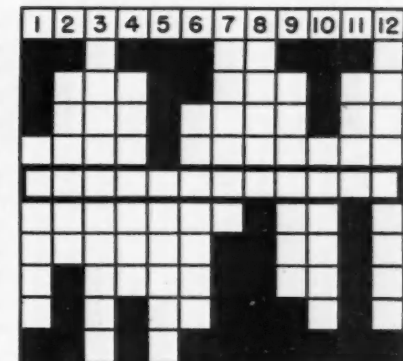
6. The editorial said the city should *jettison* (jēt'i-sūn) the whole plan. (a) quickly enact (b) think over (c) bring to a vote (d) discard.

7. The President was *explicit* (ēks-plis'it) in his requests to Congress. (a) unsure (b) clear and to the point (c) overdemanding (d) on the right track.

CURRENT AFFAIRS PUZZLE

Fill in the numbered vertical rows according to the descriptions given here. When all are correctly finished, heavy rectangle will spell out what many workers suffer from in a depression.

1. U.S. representative at meeting of Big Four foreign ministers.
2. At this meeting, Georges Bidault will represent _____.
3. When trade and business are greatly reduced, a _____ occurs.
4. Big Four foreign ministers will discuss the future of Austria and _____.
5. Our leaders are disturbed by the drop in _____ of farm products.
6. Soviet representative at foreign ministers' conference.
7. Russian capital.
8. European country whose premier resigned about three weeks ago.
9. Western leaders discussed plans for foreign ministers' meeting when Big Three met at _____.
10. Scene of foreign ministers' meeting.
11. British representative at this conference.
12. A step toward uniting all Germany is free _____.



Last Week

ACROSS: Radioisotope. VERTICAL: 1. rural; 2. Strauss; 3. speed; 4. night; 5. cyclotron; 6. uranium; 7. Einstein; 8. Alamos; 9. electric; 10. plutonium; 11. split; 12. reactor.

The Story of the Week

Want to See Pakistan?

The Pakistani government is making an exciting offer: a free, 30-day visit to its country for the boy and the girl in junior and senior high schools who write the best 1,500-word essay on *Pakistan—a Friendly Nation*.

All expenses from the winners' homes to Pakistan and back will be paid by the Pakistan Embassy. In addition to the two big prizes for the lucky students writing the best essays, 20 additional prizes, consisting of goods from Pakistan, will also be awarded.

Your teacher, principal, or school librarian should have received a copy of the contest rules and other materials by the time you read this. If the materials aren't available at your school, write at once to *Pakistan Essay Contest*, Embassy of Pakistan, 2201 R Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. Time is short. Essays must be sent to the embassy postmarked not later than February 20. Please state on your essay that you are a subscriber to THE AMERICAN OBSERVER.

In addition to materials sent out by the Pakistan Embassy, students interested in this contest may find recent magazine articles on that country by checking in the *Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature* at the school or city library.

Will It Become Law?

One of the first important legislative proposals to be introduced in this session of Congress concerns the St. Lawrence Seaway project. The measure calls for United States-Canadian cooperation in building and operating a waterway which would open the St. Lawrence River and some of the Great Lakes to ocean-going vessels. The



TURKISH PRESIDENT Celal Bayar begins a U.S. tour this week

project would also develop new sources of water power.

The Seaway plan has been before Congress many times in the past. Presidents Hoover, Roosevelt, and Truman favored the idea, and so does Eisenhower. Congress, on the other hand, has never given its approval. That's why, about two years ago, Canada decided to "go it alone."

The Canadians have already drawn up blueprints for the project, and actual construction is scheduled to begin next spring. Our northern neighbor says she will scrap her plans and go along with us on the project, however, if Congress approves our



THE EDDIE CANTOR STORY, a new movie, pictures the comedian's career

cooperation without any further delay.

The waterway measure still faces big hurdles in Congress. Its opponents argue that it would cost us more than it is worth. They contend that it would hurt railways and some of our big port cities by taking trade away from them.

Supporters say the project would more than pay for itself by providing cheap inland water transportation. In time of war, it is argued, the Seaway would speed up the shipping of war supplies, since ocean-going vessels could load and unload at lake ports in the interior of our country.

We shall discuss the pros and cons of this question in the near future.

Issues Before Congress

Today, January 25, President Eisenhower is scheduled to give Congress his views on what the federal government should do about the nation's housing problems. Next Thursday, the Chief Executive will send a special message to Capitol Hill on economic matters.

As of this writing, the President has already sent special messages to Congress on labor, agriculture, and social security. Here, in brief, are some White House proposals in these fields:

Labor: Change the Taft-Hartley labor law by (1) asking employers, in addition to labor leaders, to sign a pledge saying that they are not communists; (2) providing for government-supervised balloting among workers to find out how they feel about a work stoppage before their union calls a strike; (3) making it harder for the government to get court injunctions (orders) for the purpose of delaying certain types of strikes. (The government would still be able to delay major strikes, however, by obtaining court orders.)

Farming: Reduce payments to farmers provided by our "price support" program. (Under this program, the government guarantees farmers a set price for certain of their crops if these products cannot be sold profitably on the regular market.) Set aside a big share of surplus agricultural crops now held by Uncle Sam for school lunch programs and to aid needy people abroad.

Social Security: Extend social security benefits to an additional 10 mil-

lion workers, such as self-employed farmers, household workers, and others, who are not now included in the program. Boost social security payments to those who are already eligible to receive them.

When these and other Eisenhower proposals come up for debate in Congress, we shall fully discuss them.

Eddie Cantor Film

If you are an Eddie Cantor fan, you may want to see Warner Brothers' Technicolor film, "The Eddie Cantor Story." As the movie opens, young Cantor is singing "for pennies" on street corners in New York City's lower East Side. The story then reviews the popular entertainer's rise to fame and his long career on the stage, the radio, movies, and TV.

No story about the singer-comedian would be complete without some of the songs he helped to make famous over the years. "If You Knew Susie," "Ida," and "Oh, You Beautiful Doll" are among the 20 or more old favorite tunes sung by Cantor in the film.

The role of the popular entertainer is played by Keefe Brasselle, though the singing voice in the movie is that of Cantor himself. Marilyn Erskine plays the part of Eddie Cantor's wife, Ida.

New WAF Chief

Lieutenant Colonel Phyllis Gray is scheduled to take over as head of the Women in the Air Force (WAF) forces within a few days. She will replace Colonel Mary Shelly who has directed the women's Air Force division since 1951.

Born 49 years ago in Hartford, Connecticut, the new WAF chief formerly worked for the U.S. Air Force in Europe. She saw her first military service as an intelligence officer with the Navy during World War II. She was commissioned as a major in the Air Force early in 1949 and, less than two years later, reached the rank of lieutenant colonel. As head of WAF, she will become a full colonel.

The WAF forces now number about 12,000 women. They take over Air Force jobs to relieve men for active duty. The women serve in various clerical posts. They also work as weather analysts, radar specialists,

and in other important technical and professional jobs. Able-bodied women between the ages of 18 and 34 are eligible for duty with the WAFs.

Battle Over Funds

Near the beginning of each legislative year, Congress must vote the money needed by a number of its investigating committees to carry on their work. This year, some lawmakers want to cut down on the expenditures of a few congressional groups, including the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations headed by Senator Joseph McCarthy.

The Wisconsin lawmaker has asked for \$200,000 to conduct investigations—the same amount that was set aside for his group last year. Senator McCarthy's supporters think he should be granted all the funds he has requested. His critics don't agree.

In support of McCarthy: "His committee has done a valuable job of uncovering communists and pro-Reds who have wormed their way into our government and our defense installations. A reduction in funds now would seriously hamper important probes into disloyalty that have already been launched by this group."

The other side: "The committee headed by Senator McCarthy wasted the \$200,000 it spent last year because it didn't really expose any communists. It merely rehearsed information that had already been uncovered by other investigators. The FBI is far better equipped to probe into disloyalty than are legislative groups."

"If War Comes . . ."

"If war comes, your towns and villages will be set on fire and a blinding flash may be the first indication of an atomic explosion. An attack from the air may, in fact, be your first warning that war has broken out."

With these grim words of warning, Sweden is telling her citizens to be ready for possible atomic attacks at all times. The Swedish government is sending special pamphlets, containing instructions on what to do in case of trouble, to each family in the northern European land.

Moreover, all Swedes between 16 and 65 years of age are required to take special civil defense training



LIEUTENANT COLONEL Phyllis Gray, new commander of the WAF—the women's branch of the U. S. Air Force—now 12,000 strong

courses. They study survival techniques to help save themselves and others if an atomic attack is launched on their country.

Making Friends

In a yellow stone school building, in the Middle Eastern land of Lebanon, about 150 Lebanese youngsters sit side-by-side with some 65 American children. They study each other's language and the history of both countries.

American teachers are running the experimental school to show Lebanese school leaders some of our latest educational techniques. American teachers and children, in turn, learn about life in Lebanon.

This school is only one of 28 projects that Uncle Sam is now carrying out in Lebanon under our program for aiding underdeveloped countries. We are also helping that Arab nation to fight disease, to improve the health of its people, to grow better farm crops, and to harness rivers for irrigation and electric-power purposes.

Similar projects are conducted by the United States in 34 other lands scattered over the globe.

Around the World

President Eisenhower has asked the Senate to approve a defense agreement signed by American and South Korean representatives last fall. Under the treaty, Uncle Sam would come to South Korea's aid if the Far Eastern land were attacked. The pact would not be binding, however, if South Korean President Syngman Rhee renews the war on his own initiative.

Earlier this month, men and ships started out for Uncle Sam's atomic proving grounds in the Pacific islands of Eniwetok and Bikini. They will take part in new tests of atomic and hydrogen weapons. The greatest ex-



FRENCH and native troops in Indochina are being sent by air to the front to strengthen defenses against new attacks by communists

plosions in the history of mankind are expected to take place.

Puerto Rico's House of Representatives recently voted to continue as a self-governing commonwealth associated with the United States. The island's 2,200,000 people are, of course, U.S. citizens. They elect their own officials. They have a legislature which makes laws for Puerto Rico, and they send a delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives. He can take part in debate, but cannot vote on measures considered by Congress.

Census takers in the lands south of our border are finding it hard to keep up with the area's rapid population growth. It is estimated that if Latin America's population continues to grow at the present rate, our southern neighbors will have a total of 550 million people by the close of this century. At present, Latin America has 173 million inhabitants.

Turkey's President Celal Bayar is scheduled to meet with President Eisenhower in Washington, D.C., this Wednesday. Bayar plans to talk to our Chief Executive about Turkish defense problems. The visitor will spend three days in the nation's capital and then tour the country. He has been president of Turkey since 1950.

Residents of the nation's capital city are closely watching the fate of a bill now in Congress that would give them home rule and the right to vote. At present, Washington, D.C., a city of more than 800,000 people, is supervised by Congress—in which the District of Columbia has no representatives. Inhabitants of the area have no local or national balloting rights.

Who Is Right?

President Eisenhower reported a short time ago that some 2,200 government workers have been fired under the new administration's security program launched a year ago. Certain of these public employees were dismissed because of communist ties. Others were fired because they were alcoholics or couldn't be trusted for other reasons.

How many of these former government workers were dismissed because they were Reds or communist sympathizers? So far, the administration has not answered this question.

Some Democrats contend that the administration does not want to tell specifically how many communists it has removed from government service, because the number is small. Most communists, it is said, were ousted under the Truman government.

Republican supporters of Eisenhower reply that he would tell how many communists had been fired under his administration if it were in the public interest to do so. The fact he hasn't, it is contended, means that there are good reasons for holding back this information.

Next Week's Articles

Unless unforeseen developments arise, next week's major articles will deal with (1) the present political and economic crisis in Italy, and (2) the St. Lawrence Seaway project.

SPORTS

TWO Californians—Major Sammy Lee and Maureen Connolly—were chosen in recent polls as the nation's outstanding amateur athletes for 1953. A diving champion, Lee was selected by amateur sports officials to receive the Sullivan Trophy. Miss Connolly, the undisputed "Queen of the Tennis Courts," was picked as the leading woman athlete of the past year in an *Associated Press* poll of sportswriters and broadcasters.

The Sullivan Trophy goes each year to the person adjudged the nation's top amateur athlete. The choice of Sammy Lee was an unusual one in several respects. For one thing, he did not actually take part in any athletic competition during 1953!

Lee had a good reason for not competing in sports. A U. S. Army doctor, he was busy taking care of our troops in Korea. However, the sports officials taking part in the balloting for the Sullivan award recalled his performances of other years. In both 1948 and 1952 he won gold medals as Olympic high-diving champion.

Moreover, the little doctor—he is not much more than five feet tall—has done an outstanding job of "advancing the cause of good sportsmanship," one of the requirements for a Sullivan Trophy winner. He has helped instruct many of our best young divers, and has willingly entertained the armed forces with diving exhibitions. One of the most popular members of our last two Olympic teams, he has made hundreds of friends abroad for the United States.

Lee was born 33 years ago in Fresno, California, of Korean parents. He feels grateful for the opportunities that life in America has given him. In a recent letter to a friend he wrote: "Only in the United States can athletes of all colors, races, and religions get the chance to be world champions."

For Maureen Connolly, it is nothing new to be chosen the woman athlete of the year. Though she is only 19 years old, the brown-eyed tennis player



TOPS in amateur sports—tennis star Maureen Connolly and diver Sammy Lee

from San Diego has won the same title in two previous years.

Miss Connolly won her first U. S. championship in women's singles play before she was 17 years old. Last year she won the Australian, French, British, and U. S. titles. She also led a team of American women to victory in international matches against the best British women's players. Before she winds up her career on the tennis courts, the lively California girl may prove to be the greatest women's tennis player of all time.

THE LIGHTER SIDE

"Are you the chap who saved my little boy from drowning when he fell off the dock?"

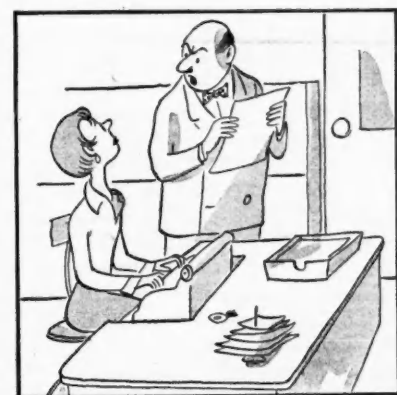
"Yes, ma'am," was the modest reply.

"Well, where's his cap?"

★

Snooty man: "One seat for tonight's show, well forward, in center downstairs. Got one?"

Ticket salesman: "Yeah. Can you play a violin?"



"Very interesting letter, Miss Fenwick, but just what was wrong with the one I dictated?"

Town Gossip: "You know, I never have any trouble keeping a secret. It's the people I tell it to who can't keep their mouths shut."

★

Doctor: "I hate to say this but the check you gave me came back."

Elderly Patient: "That sure is funny, doc. So did my rheumatism."

★

"How do they pay you in the candle factory?"

"By the wick."

★

The customer was getting a shave when an excited man burst into the barber shop and, shaking the reclining man's foot, yelled: "Hey, Wilbur, your house is on fire!"

Startled, the customer leaped from the chair, and forgetting about his lathered face, ran madly down the street. After running two blocks, he stopped suddenly. "Hey, what am I running for? I'm not Wilbur."

★

A young man away from home on a new job wrote and said: "Have been made foreman—feather in my hat."

Two months later he wrote again: "Have been made manager—another feather in my hat."

At the end of the year he wrote: "Fired—send money."

The reply came: "Use feathers—fly home."

Business Slump

(Concluded from page 1)

tell what recovery measures Eisenhower would take if a serious depression appeared close at hand.

The report will be of great significance to every American. It will be important to you personally. Unless the administration's judgment and its plans are sound, we may drift into hard times, and your family may have trouble making ends meet. Eisenhower's decisions may, therefore, determine whether you will have an opportunity to go to college, and whether jobs will be plentiful when you are ready to seek full-time employment.

Rightly or wrongly, most economic experts are of the opinion that this nation is *not* now headed into a severe depression. They do believe, however, that 1954 won't be as prosperous a year as was 1953. They use various terms, such as "recession" and "adjustment" to describe the slowing down of business which is taking place.

It must be remembered that we could slump considerably without having a deep depression. During recent years, our economy has been undergoing a tremendous boom that could hardly be expected to last forever.

War's Effect

While we were engaged in World War II, there was a demand for all the farm and factory items that could be produced. American and allied military forces used vast quantities of goods, and there wasn't nearly enough productive capacity left over to supply the demands of our civilian consumers. All our factories, therefore, were busy. Farm prices were high. Jobs and money were plentiful.

Various developments occurred after the world conflict to keep our economy working at top speed. People rushed to buy automobiles, refrigerators, and countless other items that they hadn't been able to obtain during the war years. The U. S. government gave our allies, whose industries had been wrecked by the war, billions of dollars with which to purchase American products.

Then, in 1950, war broke out in Korea, requiring huge quantities of military supplies. We and our allies launched a big rearmament program to prepare against the danger of Soviet attack. These activities kept the factories humming, provided jobs for all who wanted them, and pumped billions of dollars into the American economy.

Now we have reached a stage when there isn't any big new undertaking to keep our economic system operating at the speed which it has been going in recent years. American families are quite well stocked up on household equipment and other consumers' items. Not so many war supplies are needed in Korea since the fighting has stopped there.

Federal spending is starting to taper off. Uncle Sam is expected to spend several billion dollars less in 1954 than in 1953. This month, because of planned reductions in the size of the Army, our Defense Department canceled orders for a large number of new trucks and jeeps. Such cut-backs are bound to mean less work for our manufacturing industries and their employees.

There are various signs that a busi-

ness slump is under way. About 12 per cent fewer cars were produced during the final week of last December than during the corresponding week a year before. Steel mills, which had been working at top speed in December 1952, were operating considerably below their full capacity last month. For some months now, businesses have been failing in increasingly large numbers. Prices of farm products have been dropping, and farmers' purchases of machinery and equipment have declined. The U. S. Census Bureau says there are 1,850,000 people unemployed, compared with 1,425,000 a year ago.

Not only in the United States, but also in other parts of the world, people have been doing a lot of guesswork as

make predictions with certainty on such matters.

Several conditions exist today that should help us avoid any such severe collapse as we had 25 years ago. In the first place, our population is growing rapidly and its needs are therefore constantly expanding. There are more mouths to feed, more houses to build, more schools to be constructed, and so on down the line.

The American people as a whole have put aside huge savings, and this money represents a tremendous cushion against financial hardship. Moreover, many people now receive regular benefit payments from the government. These include elderly retired persons who are covered by the social security program, and large numbers

Today's unemployment figures are small in comparison with those of the 1930's. About 3 per cent of our labor force is unemployed now, compared with approximately 25 per cent in 1933.

On the whole, our national economy remains strong and vigorous, and the Eisenhower administration wants to keep it that way. Both major political parties now fully accept the idea that the federal government is to a great extent responsible for guarding our country against depression.

Twenty-five years ago, this idea was *not* fully accepted. Many people then felt that it wasn't Uncle Sam's job to give the economic machine a boost whenever there seemed to be danger of a serious slow-down.

Today, Eisenhower knows that he and his party would get the blame, rightly or wrongly, if we fell into a severe depression.

Furthermore, Eisenhower and his helpers recognize the hardship that a severe slump would cause in this country. They also realize that an American depression might bring economic collapse in the lands of our allies, and thus promote the spread of world communism. For these reasons, the Eisenhower administration is keeping an extremely close watch on all phases of American business life. From its observations will come the Economic Report that Congress and the general public are to receive this week.

The President's Plans

As we have already noted, this report will tell how Eisenhower thinks the government should use its powers to fight off a threatened depression. It will explain, no doubt, how certain changes in our tax laws might stimulate business activity. It may outline public works programs—involving highway construction and the like—which could be used, if necessary, to create many jobs and a sizable demand for building materials.

Whenever depressions are discussed, one question sure to arise is: What causes them? Economists still don't know as much about this as they would like to. Down through history, however, business conditions have been seen to rise and fall with a certain amount of regularity. Slumps and depressions appear to grow out of the prosperous times that precede them.

During prosperity, people are likely to become overconfident. Farmers, encouraged by high prices, produce more grain and other supplies than the market requires. Business concerns are likely to overexpand. People buy large quantities of goods, regardless of high costs. Stores order more and more merchandise from the factories. Jobs, therefore, are plentiful.

Finally, people reach the point where they are unwilling to keep making heavy purchases at high prices. Sales lag. Merchants find their shelves full of items that cannot easily be sold. They begin ordering less from the manufacturers. Factories slow down and many workers are dismissed.

Crop surpluses drive farm prices down. This often occurs before any other signs of a slump have appeared.

Generally, after a number of months, the business decline runs its course. The backlog of goods on merchants' shelves and in warehouses is exhausted. Factories speed up, and business conditions improve. Economists are hoping that the present downturn will thus come to an end this year or next.



CRAMPING HIS STYLE. The Eisenhower administration is watching for any signs of depression and plans to be ready to combat it—if the need arises.

to what these facts mean. A British economist, Colin Clark, says America faces a "rapidly mounting emergency." He thinks we may soon have as many as 6 or 7 million unemployed.

On this side of the Atlantic, qualified observers seem far more optimistic. While disagreeing among themselves on the extent to which business may slump this year, they are almost unanimous in the belief that our country is not falling into a really serious depression. Dr. Gabriel Hauge, a White House assistant, expresses the majority point of view when he says that we can "still feel pretty good about . . . the American economy in 1954."

On an average, economists predict that our nation will produce about 350 billion dollars' worth of goods and services in the current year. This figure, which is taken as a fairly good measure of our prosperity, would be second only to the 1953 record total of about 367 billion. In short, the economists think we face a slump in comparison with last year, but not a really bad depression. Nobody, though, can

of unemployed workers. We had no regular social security or unemployment compensation systems during the depression of the 1930's, but now these programs give considerable buying power to groups that otherwise could purchase very little.

Farm prices are now protected—by a federal support system—against falling to the low levels they reached in the early 1930's. Congress may soon make changes in this system, but almost certainly won't eliminate it.

Practically all individual bank deposits up to \$10,000 are fully insured by the federal government. Most people today aren't in danger of losing their funds through bank failures. In the early 1930's, such failures were one of the major causes of panic and hardship.

Uncle Sam is still spending vast amounts of money, despite present cut-backs. Federal outlays of roughly 70 billion dollars, in 1954, will keep hundreds of factories and their employees busy. In 1929, U. S. government expenditures totaled less than 4 billion dollars.

Readers Say—

For some years now, we have been helping France by sending aid to her. We hoped that the French nation would become the leader of free Europe. Nothing has come of this hope. France can't qualify as a major power because she can't keep her own house in order. With her weak form of government and her outmoded industrial methods, France adds very little strength to our side.

On the other hand, West Germany is becoming a strong bulwark against communism in Europe. Germany is stable politically, and she is growing in economic strength day by day. Therefore, I think we should let the Germans have the leading role in efforts to set up a United States of Europe.

MARY ANN LINDNER,
Richmond, Virginia.

★

I realize the need for political parties when it comes to electing public officials. But once an individual is elected to an office, he should put his party affiliation in the background. He should think less of his party and more about the welfare of his country.

MARGARET SCHULTZ,
West Lawn, Pennsylvania

★

Juvenile delinquency will continue to spread until our communities provide adequate recreation for teen-agers. A young person who gets into trouble is usually one who finds no other activities with which to occupy his time. Youth is restless. Some worthwhile outlets must be found for its boundless energy.

DOYLE BAXTER,
Valley Falls, New York

★

I don't agree with the view that we need additional community centers for teen-agers. There are many organizations, such as the Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts, and church groups, which young people can join if they care to do so. The home also offers many opportunities for enjoyable recreation.

MARY ELLEN GARVEY,
Detroit, Michigan

★

We are definitely not getting enough information or training on what to do if an atomic attack should come. I realize



that such civilian defense activities would cost money, but isn't it worth a few million dollars to prevent the possible loss of millions of lives?

JOAN GOULET,
Biddeford, Maine

★

Present-day life in Russia makes me stop to think. What if my mother had to work eight hours a day doing heavy construction work? What would it be like if my father had to spend more than a month's salary in order to buy a suit of clothes? How would I feel if my family lived under the constant watchful eyes of the secret police? I am certainly happy, proud, and thankful that I am an American.

RUTH SEURYNCK,
Cass City, Michigan

★

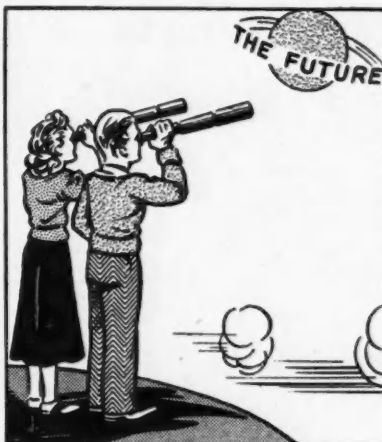
I really don't think Tito will use force in Trieste. Tito knows that if he makes trouble, his aid from us will be cut off immediately. He would then have no place to go for needed assistance.

HAROLD BENNETT,
Bayonne, New Jersey

(Address your letters to Readers Say—, THE AMERICAN OBSERVER, 1733 K Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C.)



DIPLOMAT-AUTHOR Chester Bowles



LOOKING into the future

DIGESTS OF THE WEEK

BOOK

"Ambassador's Report," a book by Chester Bowles, former U.S. Ambassador to India. Publishers: Harper & Brothers, New York. Price: \$4.

Americans don't pay enough attention to the Far East. Most "world history" courses taken by U.S. students almost ignore Asia. Meanwhile, Indians and other Asians need a far better understanding of America than they now possess. Through our movies, comics, and sensational magazines, numerous Indians have gained an impression that we are practically a nation of criminals.

Relations with Britain. Many visitors expect to find the Indians hating Britain, from whom they won freedom after an intense struggle. But "only in the Philippines, where the United States kept its promise of independence . . . is there such genuine warmth between an Asian and Western people as there is now between the Indians and the British."

Languages. India has more than a hundred tongues and dialects, but only twelve major languages. The most important is Hindustani, spoken by perhaps 150 million of India's 350 million inhabitants. English, a "second language" among most of the educated Indians, provides a means by which people with different native tongues can understand one another.

About 80 per cent of the Indians are farmers. These rural people live mainly in villages rather than in scattered farmhouses. The average village is "a crowded cluster of perhaps a hundred mud and thatched huts," surrounded by farm plots of just a few acres per family. In many cases the fields belong to landlords who may take three fourths of the crop.

There is unrest among Indian students and young college graduates. Resentful of the poverty that prevails in their land, dissatisfied with the jobs available to them when they leave school, and breaking loose from old traditions that have guided them in the past, many become bewildered and are easy prey for communist agitators.

India is trying, through democratic means, to overcome the plagues of poverty, illiteracy, and disease. She needs and deserves American help. If she fails, her people may turn to communism and carry neighboring countries along with them. If this occurs, "the balance of world power will shift fatally toward Moscow without a shot being fired."

(The opinions above are not necessarily endorsed by THE AMERICAN OBSERVER.)

MAGAZINE

"A Look Ahead to the 200th Birthday of the U. S.," by George Harrison, Life.

In only 22 years, less than the span of one generation, the United States will be celebrating its 200th birthday as a nation. What will life be like then? The answer is that the material conditions of Americans will have undergone drastic changes.

By 1976, for instance, large numbers of additional people from congested cities and from the countryside will have moved to nearby suburban areas. Many more shopping and small industrial centers will have moved to the suburbs. These outlying urban areas, sprawling in a circle 20 miles or more from the center of the city, will be connected by expressways which will run to huge parking lots.

More and more homes will be factory-made for quick assembly. Such materials as glass, fibre, and plastics will be extensively used in prefabricated houses. Many homes will be heated by the sun or by electricity. The sun will also provide us with sources of power for industries.

Transportation

Some of the greatest changes in the next 22 years will come in transportation. Jet planes will speed passengers and cargoes to their destinations. Atom-powered planes will be in operation. London and Los Angeles will be within three or four hours of New York City by jet plane. Helicopters will carry passengers to the airfields.

How well will we eat in 1976? By that time, we shall have about 40 million additional mouths to feed at home. Today, each farm worker produces enough to feed 16 people. By 1976, he will have to produce enough to feed 20 or more persons. Some of our food 20 years hence may come from the sea in the form of algae.

Factories will undergo great changes. The automatic factory, requiring only a comparatively few workers, will be in operation by 1976. Each worker will then be able to produce more, and his pay will be high. The work week may be reduced to 30 hours in order to provide employment for all. Scientific advances that will bring in new machines will also create additional jobs.

America's standard of living is now four times as high as it was in 1900. We can expect it to double again by 1976, if we remain at peace.

Newsmaker

Sherman Adams

ASSISTANT to the President Sherman Adams is nearly always close at hand when Eisenhower talks to important visitors or makes a decision on public policies. Adams' White House office is just a few steps from that of the President.

Mr. Adams' job is not an easy one. He supervises White House personnel. He helps the President choose qualified workers for other government posts. He greets important visitors, and arranges for meetings with his Chief.

Early every weekday morning, Adams leaves his home in Washington's Capitol Hill area and drives to work. He is one of the first officials to reach the White House. Often, he is the last to leave his office at night.

Adams, a former New Hampshire governor, is well equipped for his job. He is a wiry, handsome man of 55, with nearly white hair. He can trace his ancestors back to two of our past Presidents, John Adams and John Quincy Adams.

Born in East Dover, Vermont, Adams later adopted New Hampshire as his home state. After serving as a Marine in World War I, he graduated from Dartmouth College. He worked for a while as a lumberjack in Vermont, then returned to New Hampshire as an official of a lumber firm. He became a prosperous businessman.

Enters Politics

In 1940, Adams plunged into politics. After serving in New Hampshire's legislature for four years, he won a seat in the U. S. House of Representatives. He sought New Hampshire's governorship in 1946, but lost out when he failed to win the GOP nomination for that post. Two years later he tried again and won, becoming governor of the state.

In 1951, Adams was one of the first prominent Americans to back an "Eisenhower-for-President" movement. He worked day and night to get the GOP to choose Eisenhower as its 1952 standard-bearer. After helping him win the nomination, Adams assisted his chief in conducting a winning campaign for the White House.

For some time after he took over his duties as Assistant President, Adams was regarded as being blunt and crisp in his dealings with others. "A Yankee iceberg," some newsmen nicknamed him. But his friends say that Adams, who likes to be called "Governor" or "Sherm," has a gentle and friendly personality.



SHERMAN ADAMS, Presidential assistant, is a very busy man

A Career for Tomorrow - - As a Mechanic

OUR mechanized world needs mechanics. If you like to work with machines and are handy with tools, you may want to enter this steadily growing field.

Your duties, if you decide to become a mechanic, will depend upon the branch of the work you choose. One of the most highly skilled persons in this general field is the airplane mechanic. He must pass special tests and be rated by the Civil Aeronautics Administration in order to get a job.

The stationary engineer takes care of equipment, such as power plants, heating systems, and air-conditioning units in large buildings. Many cities and some states require these mechanics to pass an examination and be licensed before they can work on certain types of equipment.

Diesel mechanics, of course, work on Diesel engines. While these oil-burning engines differ from the ordinary gasoline-combustion engines, a general mechanic can shift rather easily to the Diesel field.

A large number of mechanics do repair work on autos, and there are numerous other specialized branches of mechanical work.

The duties in each of these groups vary as does the training required. In general, mechanics start a job when a piece of equipment is brought in for a checkup and for repairs. They examine the equipment, take it apart if necessary, replace worn or broken parts, and reassemble the mechanism.

Your preparation can begin now by taking general science, physics, algebra,

geometry, mechanical drawing, and similar subjects in high school. When you are ready for your specialized training, you may proceed in one of several ways. You can go to vocational school; start as a helper in a shop and learn as you work with experienced men; or go through a formal apprenticeship. The approach you



LOGAN MOTOR CO., WASHINGTON, D. C.
GOOD mechanics are scarce

choose will depend upon what kind of mechanic you want to be and on the opportunities available in your locality.

The apprenticeship, where it is available, usually covers four years and includes both classroom study and on-the-job training. If you choose this plan, you will study technical subjects related to your work in the classroom. On the job, you will work with trained men to get practical experience as a mechanic. You will receive some pay while learning the trade.

The entire apprenticeship program is usually worked out by labor unions and the employer.

Your income will vary a great deal in this work. Auto mechanics may earn from \$1.50 to \$3 an hour, depending upon experience and the locality in which they are employed. The pay of Diesel mechanics, stationary engineers, and airplane mechanics is usually higher.

Your advancement will depend largely upon your ability and upon the particular place in which you work. In smaller shops, such as a local garage, there is little opportunity to advance your position. In larger establishments mechanics of proved ability may reach important supervisory posts. Often, auto mechanics open their own shops.

Advantages and disadvantages to be found in this field depend chiefly upon individual aptitudes. In some jobs, the work is hard and dirty, but the born mechanic doesn't object. He likes to use his hands, his mind, and his back. He can usually find good jobs. As a rule, his earnings are high.

Further information on apprenticeship opportunities in your community may be secured from your State Employment Service, local garages, and industrial firms. You can also obtain helpful pamphlets from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. These include "Airplane Mechanic" (M101.28:79), and "Diesel Mechanic" (M101.28:71). Send 5 cents in coin for each pamphlet.

Study Guide

Business Conditions

1. Describe briefly the great depression of the 1930's.
2. What are some of the reasons for the business boom that America has experienced in recent years?
3. Tell of signs which indicate that a slump is under way.
4. List several causes that apparently underlie the present downturn.
5. Describe the "cushions," now existing, that should keep this slump from developing into a severe depression.
6. What are some of the means by which the government might seek to fight off a threatened depression?
7. Briefly describe the cycle in which business conditions tend to rise and fall.

Discussion

1. Do you think our people can safely assume that we are not going to have a severe depression? Why or why not?
2. If the business decline grows worse, would you favor or oppose strong government action in the effort to turn the tide? Explain.

Big Four Meeting

1. Why did British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden warn his countrymen against expecting too much from the Foreign Ministers' conference?
2. Briefly outline the Russian and U.S. plans for bringing about German unity.
3. Why does our government believe that its plan for German unity is a fair one, and that the Russian idea would be dangerous for democracy?
4. How does Russia feel about having German troops take part in west European defense programs?
5. What is the official American point of view on this same subject?
6. Russia claims that she fears attack by German or allied military forces. How are we willing to try to ease her professed fears?
7. Why should the Austrian question be easier to settle than the German one?

Discussion

1. Do you think the western nations should continue to try to make agreements with Russia on Germany, Austria, and other issues? Give reasons for your answer.
2. Should we insist upon using German troops for European defenses, or should we abandon the plan—as Russia desires? Why, or why not?

Miscellaneous

1. Briefly describe the contest being sponsored by the Pakistan Embassy.
2. Who is Lieutenant Colonel Phyllis Gray?
3. What is the financial dispute involving Senator McCarthy's investigating committee? Give some pros and cons on this issue.
4. What are several changes that Eisenhower would like to make in the Taft-Hartley labor law?
5. What are several of his recommendations with respect to the government's farm program?
6. To what extent would Eisenhower expand the social security program?
7. What prominent leader from the Middle East is making a visit in this country?
8. Who, in your opinion, have been the five strongest Presidents in the history of our nation?

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Answers to Your Vocabulary

1. (b) treasonable; 2. (a) incapable of being violated; 3. (d) care; 4. (c) deadlock; 5. (d) unyielding; 6. (d) discard; 7. (b) clear and to the point.

Historical Background - - Strong Presidents

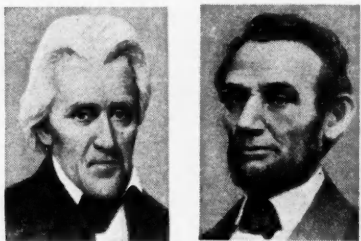
TO WHAT degree should the President take the initiative in getting the policies he favors carried out? This has long been a matter of controversy. Some feel that the Chief Executive should exercise strong leadership in pushing his recommendations through Congress. Others feel that Congress should do as it sees fit in lawmaking, and that the President should recommend but not fight for his ideas.

During his first year in office, President Eisenhower exerted little influence on Congress. Now there are signs that he may act more vigorously this year in support of the bills he has recommended. He has stated that the future of his administration depends, in large part, on "whether or not the Congress enacts a progressive, dynamic program." In view of his recent statements and actions, it is generally felt that President Eisenhower will make a strong effort to get the nation's lawmakers to put through most of his present program.

The ability to control Congress—or at least to influence strongly the lawmakers' actions—is one of the factors that usually go to make a "strong" President. Equally important is the ability to arouse and control public opinion, for public opinion, when expressed, directly influences the lawmakers. Over the years, it has generally been the Presidents who have succeeded in getting their policies enacted into law, or made effective in other ways, that history has regarded as "strong" leaders.

What Presidents fall into this group? People disagree upon the answer, but some interesting findings resulted a few years ago when 55 outstanding authorities in American history were polled on U. S. Presidents. These findings were presented by Arthur Schlesinger, Harvard historian, in an interesting and thought-provoking article in *Life* magazine.

Abraham Lincoln was the only President on whom all the historians agreed for rating in the top group. Lincoln took vigorous action to pre-



H. W. SMITH ENGRAVINGS
PRESIDENTS Andrew Jackson (left) and Abraham Lincoln acted forcefully

serve the Union, and in doing so set in motion the course of events which brought about the end of slavery. Many students of history have long felt that if Lincoln had not been assassinated, his strong leadership would have averted much of the strife of reconstruction days.

George Washington was also rated in the top group of Presidents. His leadership of our government during the difficult early days of the republic laid the foundation for lasting growth.

Other Chief Executives of early days who took the reins of government firmly in their hands—according to the historians' poll—included Thomas Jefferson and Andrew Jackson. Among other achievements, Jefferson carried out the purchase of Louisiana—a landmark in enlarging our nation. Jackson acted vigorously to keep South Carolina from leaving the Union, and he encouraged the ordinary people to play an active role in helping to run their democratic government.

Among the Presidents of the 20th century whom the historians rated in their poll as particularly strong leaders were Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, and Franklin Roosevelt. All three took positive action to push the programs they favored through Congress, and they increased the powers of the executive branch in relation to the other branches of the government.

An interesting sidelight about the Presidents who worked vigorously to make their policies effective is that, without exception, they met with strong opposition. Sometimes opposition was so strong that they were stopped from carrying out their plans. Wilson, for example, failed to get the United States to join the League of Nations. Franklin Roosevelt failed in his attempt to change the composition of the Supreme Court by adding new justices. Few would deny, though, that these Presidents left their stamp on the government and the nation.

It usually takes some time after a President leaves office to tell just how he will rate in history.